

## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS FOR **UNIT NAME** CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

### NOTES:

- This template is provided to assist units in conducting a change of command ceremony to standard.
- When the Adjutant or COT directs “BRING YOUR UNITS TO \_\_\_\_\_,” subordinate element commanders will come to attention and give the directed command.
- If a shorter ceremony is desired, all “ripple” commands are eliminated. The COT/Adjutant gives the preparatory command, subordinate leaders give the supplemental, and the COT/Adjutant gives the command of execution. Example: “BRIGADE (Bn Cdrs say BATTALION), PRESENT ARMS.” The only “rippled” command will be at the start of the ceremony when the Adjutant directs “BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION.”
- Some of the movements/actions specified in this template are not explicitly found in FM 3-21.5 (<https://atiam.train.army.mil/soldierPortal/atia/adlsc/view/public/8390-1/fm/3-21.5/toc.htm>). They are “best practices” that have been found to make the ceremony move more smoothly.
- For downloadable recordings of ceremonial music, go to <http://www.1perscom.army.mil/BAND/CeremonialMO.htm>.
- You can quickly adapt this template to your needs by doing a Global Replace (Ctrl+H) of **UNIT NAME** with your unit, **SENIOR CO** with the name of the Senior Commander, **OUTGOING CO** and **INCOMING CO** with the appropriate names.
- **RED** text indicates items for you to customize.
- **BOLD** text indicates something that’s spoken aloud.

C = Start of Ceremony

- **C-60: ALL PARTICIPANTS, TO INCLUDE UNIT FORMATIONS AND COLOR GUARD, MAKE FINAL PREPARATIONS AT THE MARSHALLING SITE. PROTOCOL WILL SEAT GUESTS.**
- **C-20: BAND TAKES ITS POSITION ON THE FINAL LINE, 12 STEPS TO THE RIGHT OF THE RIGHT FLANK UNIT'S MARKER.**
- **C-15: ADJUTANT MOVES INTO POSITION (THE ADJUTANT'S INITIAL POST IS THREE STEPS TO THE LEFT OF THE BAND).**
- **C-15: BAND BEGINS TO PLAY MUSIC. UNITS MARCH ON TO THE FINAL LINE. THIS MUST BE COORDINATED WITH THE BAND TO ENSURE THE MOVEMENT OF TROOPS IS SYNCHRONIZED WITH THEIR PRE-CEREMONY MUSIC. EACH ELEMENT WILL IN TURN MARK TIME, HALT, AND ADJUST DRESS AND ALIGNMENT.**
- **C-10: FORMATIONS ARE IN POSITION ON THE FINAL LINE AND HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE COMMAND "PARADE, REST" FROM THE ELEMENT COMMANDER.**

➤ C-2: BAND STOPS PLAYING MUSIC.

**NARRATOR: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE CEREMONY WILL BEGIN IN TWO MINUTES.**

➤ C: **NARRATION BEGINS:**

**GOOD MORNING LADIES, GENTLEMEN AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS. THE OFFICERS, NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS, SOLDIERS, AND CIVILIANS OF THE **UNIT NAME** WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE **UNIT NAME** CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY BETWEEN **INCOMING CO** AND **OUTGOING CO**. DURING TODAY'S CEREMONY, **INCOMING CO**, WHO HAS COMMANDED THE **UNIT NAME** SINCE **BEGINNING OF COMMAND**, WILL RELINQUISH THE COMMAND TO **OUTGOING CO**. PRESIDING OVER TODAY'S CEREMONY IS **SENIOR CO**.**

**PARTICIPATING UNITS TO YOUR FRONT IN TODAY'S CEREMONY ARE THE USAREUR ARMY BAND,**

**LIST OF UNITS IN CEREMONY**

➤ **INVOCATION**

**NARRATOR: Ladies and Gentlemen, please stand as chaplain \_\_\_\_\_ gives the invocation.**

**AT THIS TIME, (**MRS/ MR.**) **NAME**, (**WIFE/ HUSBAND**) OF **OUTGOING CO**, IS BEING PRESENTED A (**BOUQUET OF RED FLOWERS/ GIFT**) IN APPRECIATION OF (**HIS/ HER**) DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE **UNIT NAME****

**A (BOUQUET OF YELLOW FLOWERS/ GIFT) IS NOW BEING PRESENTED TO (MR. / MRS.), HUSBAND/ WIFE OF INCOMING CO, WELCOMING HIM/ HER TO THE COMMAND.**

**AT THIS TIME PLEASE DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FIELD WHERE THE ADJUTANT WILL BEGIN THE CEREMONY.**

**SOUND ATTENTION**

- **THE ADJUTANT FACES DOWN THE FINAL LINE AND OVER HIS RIGHT SHOULDER AND DIRECTS THE BAND TO "SOUND ATTENTION."**
- **THE BAND SOUNDS ATTENTION (UNIT COMMANDERS IMMEDIATELY FACE ABOUT, BRING THEIR UNITS (IN SEQUENCE FROM RIGHT TO LEFT) TO ATTENTION AND THEN FACE ABOUT.**

**ADJUTANT'S CALL**

- **WHEN ALL UNITS ARE AT ATTENTION, THE ADJUTANT DIRECTS "SOUND ADJUTANT'S CALL."**
- **AS THE BAND SOUNDS ADJUTANT'S CALL, THE ADJUTANT MOVES QUICKLY TO HIS/HER PLACE IN THE CENTER OF THE FIELD.**

## **SOUND OFF**

**[1PC1]**

- **THE ADJUTANT FACES THE FORMATION AND GIVES THE COMMAND, “BRING YOUR UNITS TO PARADE REST”.**
  
- **WHEN ALL TROOPS ARE AT PARADE REST, THE ADJUTANT DIRECTS THE BAND TO “SOUND OFF”, THEN GOES TO PARADE REST.**
  
- **NARRATOR: THE SOUND OFF TRACES ITS ROOTS TO THE ROMAN LEGIONS WHO WOULD PARADE BEFORE THE CITIZENS BEFORE GOING FORTH TO BATTLE. THE THREE SOUND OFF CHORDS REPRESENTS THE THREE CHEERS GIVEN TO INSPIRE THE TROOPS. THE **NAME OF BAND** SALUTES THE FORMATION, ENDING WITH THE THREE CHEERS.**
  
- **THE BAND PERFORMS SOUND OFF.**
  
- **UPON COMPLETION OF SOUND OFF THE ADJUTANT GIVES THE COMMAND, “BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION”. THIS IS THE CUE FOR THE COT TO BRING HIMSELF AND HIS STAFF TO ATTENTION.**
  
- **WHEN ALL TROOPS ARE AT ATTENTION, THE COT MARCHES HIS STAFF FROM THEIR POSITION NEAR THE REVIEWING STAND TO THEIR POST MIDWAY BETWEEN THE LINE OF TROOPS AND THE REVIEWING STAND AND FACES THE LINE OF TROOPS.**

- **WHEN THE COT HAS HALTED AT HIS POST, THE ADJUTANT FACES ABOUT AND DIRECTS "BRING YOUR UNITS TO PRESENT ARMS." UNIT COMMANDERS FACE ABOUT AND, IN SEQUENCE, COMMAND PRESENT, ARMS. THEY THEN FACE ABOUT AND SALUTE.**
  
- **AFTER ALL UNITS ARE AT PRESENT ARMS, THE ADJUTANT REPORTS, "SIR, THE COMMAND IS FORMED."**
  
- **THE COT RETURNS THE SALUTE (MEMBERS OF STAFF DO NOT SALUTE) OF THE ADJUTANT AND DIRECTS "TAKE YOUR POST." (ADJUTANT TAKES POST BY FACING TO THE HALF LEFT IN MARCHING, MARCHES FORWARD, HALTS AT NORMAL INTERVAL TO THE RIGHT OF THE RIGHT FLANK STAFF MEMBER, AND THEN FACES ABOUT).**
  
- **WHEN THE ADJUTANT IS IN POSITION, THE COT DIRECTS "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ORDER ARMS AND PARADE REST."**
  
- **WHEN ALL UNITS ARE AT PARADE REST, THE LEFT FLANK STAFF OFFICER COMMANDS "RIGHT, FACE; FORWARD, MARCH; COLUMN LEFT, MARCH; COLUMN LEFT, MARCH; STAFF HALT; AND LEFT, FACE." AT THAT TIME, THE STAFF SHOULD BE CENTERED ON, AND TWO STEPS IN FRONT OF, THE COT.**

**NARRATOR: "LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE RISE FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY."**

- **ON APPROACH OF THE REVIEWING PARTY, THE COT EXECUTES AN ABOUT FACE AND COMMANDS "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION." ONCE ALL UNITS ARE AT ATTENTION, THE COT FACES ABOUT.**

## ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

- THE REVIEWING PARTY MARCHES TO THEIR POSITION IN FRONT OF THEIR SEATS, **OUTGOING CO**, LEFT (AS THEY FACE THE FIELD); **SENIOR CO**, CENTER; **INCOMING CO**, RIGHT. *(This alignment puts the official party in the right order for the Inspection of Troops).*

NARRATOR THEN ANNOUNCES EACH MEMBER OF REVIEWING PARTY:

NARRATOR: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE OFFICIAL PARTY CONSISTS OF:

THE **UNIT NAME** COMMANDER, **OUTGOING CO**.

THE INCOMING COMMANDER, **INCOMING CO**.

- WHEN REVIEWING PARTY IS IN PLACE AND INTRODUCTION IS COMPLETE, THE COT THEN EXECUTES AN ABOUT FACE, AND COMMANDS, "BRING YOUR UNITS TO PRESENT ARMS." WHEN THE UNITS HAVE COMPLETED THIS MOVEMENT, THE COT FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS HIS STAFF AND HIMSELF TO "PRESENT, ARMS."

## HONORS TO THE HOST

- **ONCE THE COT IS AT PRESENT ARMS THE BAND PLAYS **THE APPROPRIATE HONORS**. *Ensure prior coordination between the Band Commander and the Salute Battery if one is used.***

**NARRATOR (AFTER THE BAND STOPS PLAYING): LADIES AND GENTLEMEN PLEASE BE SEATED.**

- **ONCE THE BAND STOPS PLAYING OR THE GUNS HAVE STOPPED FIRING (WHICHEVER IS LAST) THE COT REPORTS TO **INCOMING CO**, "SIR, THE COMMAND IS FORMED" (**INCOMING CO** RETURNS THE COT'S SALUTE). AFTER REPORTING, THE COT GIVES "STAFF, ORDER ARMS" AND FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS, "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ORDER ARMS, AND PARADE REST."**
- **WHEN ALL TROOPS ARE AT PARADE REST, THE COT FACES ABOUT. HE AND HIS STAFF REMAIN AT ATTENTION.**

## **INSPECTION OF THE TROOPS**

**NARRATOR: AT THIS TIME THE COMMANDER OF TROOPS WILL ESCORT THE REVIEWING PARTY ON AN INSPECTION OF THE TROOPS. THE REVIEWING OF THE COMMAND, OR "TROOPING OF THE LINE" AS IT IS OFTEN CALLED, DATES BACK HUNDREDS OF YEARS. IT WAS USED FOR THE COMMANDER TO REVIEW HIS TROOPS' CONDITION AND STATE OF READINESS PRIOR TO BATTLE. THIS AFTERNOON'S REVIEW IS SYMBOLIC IN THAT IT ALLOWS THE OUTGOING COMMANDER, **OUTGOING CO**, ONE FINAL REVIEW OF THE UNITS AND SOLDIERS HE HAS COMMANDED FOR THE LAST \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS. THIS REVIEW ALSO IS SIGNIFICANT FOR THE INCOMING COMMANDER IN THAT IT IS **HIS/HER** FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE TROOPS **HE/SHE** IS ABOUT TO COMMAND.**

**OUTGOING CO'S BIO; INCLUDING RECENT ASSIGNMENTS, AWARDS, SCHOOLS – MILITARY AND CIVILIAN, AND FAMILY INFORMATION (i.e. "IS MARRIED TO...).**

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**INCOMING CO'S BIO; INCLUDING RECENT ASSIGNMENTS, AWARDS, SCHOOLS – MILITARY AND CIVILIAN, AND FAMILY INFORMATION (i.e. "IS MARRIED TO...)**

**-OR-**

#### **INFORMATION ABOUT THE UNIT AND ITS HERITAGE**

- **DURING THE NARRATION, INCOMING CO, OUTGOING CO AND OFFICIAL PARTY MOVE FORWARD AND COME TO A HALT THREE STEPS IN FRONT OF THE COT. THE COT SALUTES AND REPORTS, "SIR, THE COMMAND IS PREPARED FOR INSPECTION" (OUTGOING CO OR OFFICIAL PARTY RETURN SALUTE). THE COT THEN ESCORTS THE REVIEWING PARTY TO THE RIGHT FLANK OF THE BAND.**
- **THE BAND BEGINS TO PLAY MARCHING MUSIC ON THE SALUTE OF THE COT AND CONTINUES TO PLAY UNTIL THE REVIEWING OFFICERS RETURN TO THEIR POST.**
- **UPON DEPARTURE OF THE REVIEWING PARTY, THE SENIOR STAFF OFFICER COMMANDS THE STAFF TO "PARADE, REST." AFTER THE INSPECTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED, THE SENIOR STAFF OFFICER COMMANDS, "STAFF, ATTENTION" BEFORE THE RETURN OF THE COT.**



- WHEN THE REVIEWING PARTY APPROACHES THE RIGHT FLANK OF EACH UNIT, THE UNIT COMMANDER FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS "\_\_\_\_\_, ATTENTION." HE THEN FACES TO THE FRONT AND OVER HIS RIGHT SHOULDER COMMANDS "EYES, RIGHT." ON THE COMMAND OF EYES, RIGHT, THE \_\_\_\_\_ COMMANDER EXECUTES EYES RIGHT AND SALUTES. THE GUIDON BEARER EXECUTE EYES RIGHT AND PRESENTS THE GUIDON.
  
- AS SOON AS THE REVIEWING PARTY CLEARS THE UNIT, THE COMMANDER COMMANDS "ORDER, ARMS." HE THEN FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS "PARADE, REST," ASSUMES THE POSITION HIMSELF, AND REMAINS FACING THE UNIT. THE LEFT FLANK UNIT REMAINS AT ATTENTION UNTIL THE REVIEWING PARTY HAS CLEARED THE RIGHT REAR OF THE UNIT. OTHER COMMANDERS REMAIN FACING TO THE REAR AND COMMAND THEIR UNIT TO "ATTENTION" AS THE PARTY PASSES TO THE REAR OF THE UNIT. THEY THEN COMMAND "PARADE, REST," FACE TO THE FRONT, AND ASSUME PARADE REST.
  
- AS THE REVIEWING PARTY APPROACHES THE COLORS, THE COT INCONSPICUOUSLY COMMANDS "PRESENT, ARMS" (SIX STEPS FROM THE COLORS) AND "ORDER, ARMS" (SIX STEPS BEYOND THE COLORS). THE COLOR GUARD AND BEARERS EXECUTE EYES RIGHT. THE ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS DIP (SALUTES).
  
- AFTER PASSING IN FRONT OF THE TROOPS THE INSPECTION CONTINUES ALONG THE REAR OF THE TROOPS AND TERMINATES AT THE RIGHT FLANK OF THE BAND. THE COT COMMANDS "PARTY, HALT." THE COT FACES TO THE HALF LEFT IN MARCHING, TAKES TWO STEPS, HALTS, AND FACES ABOUT. THE COT AND **OUTGOING CO** EXCHANGE SALUTES. UPON TERMINATION OF THE SALUTE THE REVIEWING PARTY IMMEDIATELY FACES TO THE HALF LEFT IN MARCHING AND RETURN TO THEIR POSTS.
  
- (**OUTGONG CO** & **INCOMING CO** POSITION THEMSELVES TO **SENIOR CO** LEFT IF PRESENT). THE COT HESITATES

MOMENTARILY AND FACES TO THE RIGHT IN MARCHING AND RETURNS TO HIS POST. WHEN MOUNTING THE REVIEWING STAND, THE PARTY WILL ASSUME POSITIONS WITH THE **OUTGOING CO** ON THE RIGHT (WHEN FACING THE FIELD), **SENIOR CO** IN THE CENTER, AND **INCOMING CO** ON THE LEFT. *This aligns the official party for the Change of Command.*

### HONORS TO THE NATION

- AFTER REVIEWING PARTY HAS RETURNED TO THEIR POST THE COT FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION".
- ONCE UNITS ARE BROUGHT TO "ATTENTION" THE COT COMMANDS "OFFICERS & COLORS, CENTER" (PAUSES FOR 3 COUNTS) "MARCH".
- UPON THE COMMAND "MARCH", THE COLORS MARCH FORWARD SEVEN (7) STEPS AND HALT.
- ON THE PREPARATORY COMMAND "COLORS CENTER", THE STAFF EXECUTES A RIGHT FACE, AND ON THE COMMAND "MARCH", MARCHES FORWARD      STEPS (Far enough to provide clearance for the colors). THE S3 HALTS THE STAFF AND FACES THE STAFF TO THE LEFT. STAFF REMAINS AT ATTENTION.
- ON THE PREPARATORY COMMAND "COLORS CENTER", UNIT COMMANDERS AND GUIDON BEARERS WILL TAKE ONE STEP FORWARD AND EXECUTE A CENTER FACE.
- ON THE COMMAND "MARCH" THE UNIT COMMANDERS AND GUIDON BEARERS WILL MARCH TO A POSITION DIRECTLY BEHIND

**THE COLORS, HALT, AND EXECUTE A RIGHT OR LEFT FACE AS APPROPRIATE SO THAT THEY ARE FACING THE REVIEWING STAND.**

- **AS THE UNIT COMMANDERS MOVE TO THE CENTER OF THE FORMATION THE DETACHMENT SERGEANT WILL MOVE AROUND THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE FORMATION TO TAKE COMMAND OF THE FORMATION.**
- **THE COT MOVES TO WITHIN THREE STEPS OF THE COLORS. THE COT FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS OVER HIS RIGHT SHOULDER, “DETACHMENT, FORWARD MARCH” AND THEN HALTS THE COLORS AT HIS ORIGINAL POST, BY COMMANDING “MARK TIME MARCH”, “DETACHMENT HALT”.**
- **COT SALUTES AND REPORTS, “SIR, THE COLORS ARE PRESENT”.**
- **THE OUTGOING CO RETURNS THE SALUTE AND DIRECTS “PRESENT THE COMMAND”**
- **THE COT FACES TO THE RIGHT AND MARCHES AROUND THE RIGHT FLANK OF THE COLORS AND HALTS TWO STEPS IN FRONT OF AND CENTERED ON THE STAFF, THEN FACES TO THE RIGHT, FACING THE TROOPS. THE COT THEN DIRECTS “BRING YOUR UNITS TO PRESENT ARMS”.**
- **UNIT SERGEANTS FACE ABOUT AND COMMANDS “DETACHMENT, PRESENT ARMS”. DETACHMENT SERGEANTS FACE ABOUT AND PRESENT ARMS.**

- THE COT FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS THE STAFF AND COLORS DETACHMENT, "DETACHMENT, PRESENT ARMS".

**NARRATOR: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, PLEASE STAND FOR THE PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS OF GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

- THE BAND PLAYS THE NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FOLLOWED BY THE PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
- THE REVIEWING PARTY SALUTES ON THE FIRST NOTE OF THE GERMAN NATIONAL ANTHEM. THEY THEN DROP THEIR SALUTES AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE U.S. ANTHEM.

**NARRATOR: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN PLEASE BE SEATED.**

- AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE U.S. ANTHEM, THE COT COMMANDS (FOR HIMSELF, HIS STAFF, AND THE DETACHMENT) "DETACHMENT, ORDER, ARMS." HE THEN EXECUTES AN ABOUT FACE AND COMMANDS, "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ORDER, ARMS AND PARADE REST."
- THE COT FACES ABOUT THEN COMMANDS, "PARADE REST" THEN EXECUTES "PARADE REST" HIMSELF.
- AS THE NARRATION BEGINS, THE REVIEWING PARTY (*moves off the reviewing stand* **SENIOR CO** *in the center,* **OUTGOING CO** *on the right side,* **INCOMING CO** *to the left*) MARCHES FORWARD AND HALTS 4 STEPS IN FRONT OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS. **CSM/SGM** POSITIONS **HIM/HER** SELF IN FRONT OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS FROM BEHIND THE COLOR GUARD.

- **PAO ASSISTS MEDIA/PHOTOGRAPHER MOVING INTO POSITION.**

### **CHANGE OF COMMAND**

**NARRATOR: The change of command ceremony is a military tradition that is rich with symbolism and heritage dating back to medieval times. Soldiers often carried staffs or standards into battle that identified them as a unit. Throughout military history, unit colors have marked the position of the commander on the battlefield and served as a rallying point. While attacking or rallying on the battlefield, soldiers would follow the standard or guidons of their leader, most often found at the forward edge of the battle.**

**IN MORE RECENT TIMES, THE COLORS REPRESENT NOT ONLY THE HERITAGE AND HISTORY OF THE UNIT, BUT ALSO THE UNITY AND LOYALTY OF ITS SOLDIERS. THE COLORS ARE THE COMMANDER'S SYMBOL OF AUTHORITY, REPRESENTING HIS RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE ORGANIZATION. WHEREVER THE COMMANDER IS, THERE ALSO ARE THE COLORS. THE PASSING OF THE UNIT COLORS REPRESENTS THE TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE UNIT FROM ONE COMMANDER TO ANOTHER.**

- **INCOMING CO AND OUTGOING CO THEN TAKE ONE STEP FORWARD AND EXECUTE FACING MOVEMENTS SO THAT THEY ARE FACING EACH OTHER.**
- **CSM/SGM REMOVES THE COLORS FROM THE BEARER'S SLING (WITH HIS RIGHT HAND ABOVE HIS LEFT HAND), AND FACES ABOUT.**

**ONCE THE PARTY IS IN PLACE AND THE CSM/SGM HAS THE COLORS IN HAND:**

**the COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR is The keeper of the COLORS. As the senior enlisted soldier in the unit, he is the spokesman for both the loyalty and concerns of the soldiers and the principle advisor to the commander.**

**THE PASSING OF THE COLORS FROM THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR TO THE OUTGOING COMMANDER SIGNIFIES HIS LAST ACT OF ALLEGIANCE TO THAT COMMANDER.**

- **DURING THE READING, CSM/SGM STEPS FORWARD AND PRESENTS THE ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS TO OUTGOING CO (WITH LEFT HAND ABOVE HIS RIGHT HAND).**

**THE PASSING OF THE COLORS FROM THE OUTGOING COMMANDER TO THE SENIOR TACTICAL COMMANDER SIGNIFIES THAT THE UNIT IS NEVER WITHOUT OFFICER LEADERSHIP.**

- **DURING THE READING, OUTGOING CO PASSES THE COLORS TO SENIOR CO (WHO GRASPS THE COLORS WITH RIGHT HAND ABOVE HIS LEFT HAND)**

**THE PASSING OF THE COLORS FROM THE SENIOR TACTICAL COMMANDER TO THE INCOMING COMMANDER SIGNIFIES THE PASSING OF HIS TRUST, AND ALSO THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE UNIT AND ITS SOLDIERS.**

**ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND ORDER: BY THE AUTHORITY OF AR 600-20, PARAGRAPH 2-3, THE UNDERSIGNED ASSUMES COMMAND OF BATTALION'S NAME, EFFECTIVE DD MM YY. SIGNED, SIGNING AUTHORITY**

- **SENIOR CO** PAUSES WITH THE COLORS. DURING THE ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND ORDERS, HE/SHE PASSES THE COLORS TO **INCOMING CO** (WHO GRASPS IT WITH THEIR LEFT HAND ABOVE THEIR RIGHT HAND).

THE PASSING OF THE COLORS FROM THE INCOMING COMMANDER TO THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR SIGNIFIES THE CONFIDENCE THAT THE COMMANDER PLACES IN THE NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS AND IS THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR'S FIRST ACT OF ALLEGIANCE TO HIS/HER NEW COMMANDER.

- DURING THE READING, **INCOMING CO** PASSES THE COLORS TO **CSM/SGM** (WHO GRASPS IT WITH HIS RIGHT HAND ABOVE HIS LEFT HAND), FACES ABOUT AND RETURNS THE COLORS TO THE COLOR BEARER'S SLING.

### REMARKS

- AS **CSM/SGM** FACES ABOUT, THE REVIEWING PARTY EXECUTES A FACING MOVEMENT SO THAT THEY ARE ALL FACING THE REVIEWING STAND. THEN **CSM/SGM** QUIETLY GIVES THE COMMAND, "FORWARD, MARCH". WHILE MARCHING, **OUTGOING CO AND INCOMING CO** CROSS BEHIND **OFFICIAL PARTY** AND CHANGE SIDES. **CSM/SGM** MARCHES TO HIS/HER ORIGINAL POSITION OFF OF THE FIELD. THE REVIEWING PARTY COMES TO A HALT AT THEIR ORIGINAL POSITIONS ON THE REVIEWING STAND, AND EXECUTES AN ABOUT FACE AND PARADE REST.

NARRATOR: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, **SENIOR CO**.

- THE **SENIOR CO** THEN MOVES DIRECTLY TO THE LECTERN FOR HIS/HER REMARKS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, **OUTGOING CO**.

- **OUTGOING CO** THEN MOVES TO THE LECTERN FOR HIS/HER REMARKS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, **INCOMING CO**.

- **INCOMING CO** THEN MOVES TO THE LECTERN FOR HIS/HER REMARKS.

- AFTER **OUTGOING CO** REMARKS, THE REVIEWING PARTY ASSUMES THE POSITION OF ATTENTION.
- UPON COMPLETION OF REMARKS, THE COT BRINGS HIS/HER STAFF TO  
  
ATTENTION, FACES ABOUT AND DIRECTS "BRING YOUR UNITS TO ATTENTION."
- UNIT SERGEANTS FACE ABOUT AND DIRECT "\_\_\_\_\_, ATTENTION" THEN FACE ABOUT.
- ONCE ALL UNITS ARE AT "ATTENTION", THE COT FACES ABOUT AND DIRECTS "DETACHMENT, POST (PAUSE), MARCH."
- ON THE COMMAND OF POST, COLORS REVERSE MARCH AND HALT, AND COMMANDERS AND UNIT GUIDONS FACE ABOUT.
- ON THE COMMAND MARCH, THE COLORS AND COMMANDERS AND UNIT GUIDONS MARCH BACK TO THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION.
- UNIT SERGEANTS RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION BEHIND THE UNIT FORATION.
- ON THE COMMAND "MARCH" THE BAND BEGINS PLAYING UNTIL THE COLORS RETURN TO THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION
- AS THE COLORS PASS HIS/HER POSITION THE COT FACES HIM/HERSELF AND HIS/HER STAFF TO THE LEFT AND MARCHES HIS/HER STAFF BACK TO THE CENTER OF THE FIELD AND FACES THEM TO THE RIGHT AS HE/SHE FACES TO THE LEFT. AFTER THE COLORS ARE IN POSITION HE/SHE FACES ABOUT

#### **PASS IN REVIEW SEQUENCE**

- REVIEWING OFFICER DIRECTS "PASS IN REVIEW"
- THE COT FACES ABOUT AND COMMANDS "PASS IN REVIEW".
- THE BAND MOVES TO A POSITION THAT ENABLES IT TO MOVE STRAIGHT AHEAD ONTO THE LINE OF MARCH.
- UNIT COMMANDERS FACE TO THE RIGHT ON THE COT'S DIRECTIVE, "PASS IN REVIEW". THE COT THEN FACES TO THE LEFT.



- AFTER THE BAND HAS REACHED IT'S START POSITION, THE BAND DRUM MAJOR WILL GESTURE DIRECTLY AT THE FIRST ELEMENT COMMANDER AND SAY “**SIR/MA’AM ON YOUR COMMAND.**” THE COMMANDER OF THE FIRST ELEMENT DIRECTS, “RIGHT TURN”, THE BAND DRUM MAJOR GIVES THE SUPPLEMENTARY COMMAND “FORWARD”, THE COMMANDER OF THE FIRST ELEMENT GIVES THE COMMAND “MARCH” THE BAND BEGINS PLAYING AND MARCHING FORWARD ONTO THE LINE OF MARCH.
- ON THE COMMAND "RIGHT TURN," (PAUSE), "MARCH" BY THE FIRST UNIT COMMANDER NEXT TO THE BAND, THE COT AND HIS STAFF MOVE TO A MARCHING POSITION 12 STEPS IN FRONT OF THE DRUM MAJOR (ON THE REVIEWING LINE)
- OTHER ELEMENTS MOVE OUT IN SUCCESSION AND FOLLOW IN COLUMN. ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS DO A WHEEL TO FALL BEHIND UNIT COMMANDERS AND THEIR STAFFS AS THEY MARCH FORWARD. FORMATIONS EXECUTE A RIGHT TURN ON A PARALLEL PATH WITH UNIT COMMANDERS. FORMATIONS WILL BE ON LINE WITH AND PARALLEL TO UNIT COMMANDERS UNTIL THE FIRST LEFT TURN. AFTER THE FIRST LEFT TURN, UNITS WILL BE CENTERED ON AND BEHIND UNIT COMMANDERS AND THEIR COLORS.

**NOTE:** THERE WILL BE SIX STEPS BETWEEN UNIT COMMANDERS AND ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS, TWELVE STEPS BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS AND MASSED FORMATIONS.

- Units will execute two left turns prior to moving onto the reviewing line.
- The band and each following unit change direction at points indicated by markers. When units reach the turn marker, the unit Commander commands, "**LEFT TURN, MARCH**". When each unit has completed the turn, the unit commander gives, "**FORWARD, MARCH**".

**NARRATOR:** THE NARRATOR WILL ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF MARCHING UNITS AT THEY PASS THE REVIEWING STAND.

- COT AND STAFF EXECUTE “EYES RIGHT” AND SALUTE WHEN IN POSITION SIX STEPS FROM THE REVIEWING STAND. THEY

**EXECUTE “READY FRONT” AND THE SALUTE WHEN THE STAFF HAS PASSED SIX STEPS BEYOND THE REVIEWING STAND.**

- **THE REVIEWING OFFICER RETURNS ONLY THE SALUTE OF THE COT. (THE RETURN OF THE SALUTE BY THE REVIEWING OFFICER REPRESENTS THE SALUTE FROM ALL SUBORDINATE COMMANDERS. THIS ENABLES THE REVIEWING OFFICER TO OBSERVE THE REVIEW WITHOUT BEING INTERRUPTED BY FREQUENT SALUTES.)**

**Narrator: please rise for the national colors**

- **The reviewing party and all uniformed spectators salute the national colors when they pass.**
- **AFTER SALUTING THE REVIEWING OFFICER, THE COT AND HIS STAFF (WITHOUT COMMAND) EXECUTE THREE WHEELING MOVEMENTS AND TAKE THEIR POSTS SO THAT THE COT IS ON LINE WITH AND TO THE RIGHT ON THE REVIEWING OFFICER**
- **WHEN PASSING THE REVIEWING OFFICER, THE BANDMASTER SALUTES AND CONTINUES TO LOOK STRAIGHT FORWARD; SIMULTANEOUSLY THE DRUM MAJOR EXECUTES EYES RIGHT AND SALUTES. THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BAND CONTINUE TO PLAY MARCHING MUSIC WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. WHEN THE BAND HAS CLEARED THE REVIEWING AREA, THE DRUM MAJOR HAS THE BAND EXECUTE THREE LEFT TURNS INTO A POSITION IN FRONT OF AND FACING THE REVIEWING OFFICER AND AT LEAST 12 STEPS FROM THE LEFT FLANK OF THE MARCHING TROOPS. AS THE NATIONAL COLORS PASS, THE BANDMASTER AND DRUM MAJOR SALUTE WHILE THE BAND CONTINUES TO PLAY MARCHING MUSIC WITHOUT INTERRUPTION.**
- **COMMAND SERGEANTS MAJOR, STAFFS AND ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS WILL EXECUTE EYES RIGHT WHEN DIRECTED BY THE UNIT COMMANDERS. UNIT COMMANDERS WILL GIVE THE PREPARATORY COMMAND “EYES” OVER THEIR RIGHT SHOULDER TWO STEPS FROM THE MARKER. THE COMMAND OF EXECUTION “RIGHT” IS GIVEN WHEN THE RIGHT FOOT STRIKES THE GROUND, ON LINE WITH THE MARKER. THE CSM/SGM AND HIS STAFF EXECUTES EYES RIGHT AND SALUTES. THE ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS SALUTE (DIP). THE RIGHT FILE OF EACH ELEMENT CONTINUES TO LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD. ALL OTHER MEMBERS EXECUTE EYES RIGHT.**

- WHEN THE REAR OF THE UNIT HAS PASSED SIX STEPS BEYOND THE REVIEWING STAND, UNIT COMMANDERS COMMAND “READY” AS THE LEFT FOOT STRIKES THE GROUND AND “FRONT” THE NEXT TIME THE LEFT FOOT STRIKES THE GROUND FOR HIS STAFF AND ORGANIZATIONAL COLORS. THE SAME SOLDIER WHO CALLED EYES RIGHT CALLS READY FRONT IN THE SAME MANNER ABOVE. ALL PERSONS END THEIR SALUTES AND RETURN THEIR HEAD AND EYES TO THE FRONT.
- AS THE COLOR GUARD PASSES THE REVIEWING OFFICER, EACH MEMBER, EXCEPT THE RIGHT FLANK MAN, EXECUTES EYES RIGHT ON THE COMMAND OF THE SENIOR COLOR SERGEANT.

NOTE: THE UNIT COLORS ARE DIPPED. NATIONAL COLORS AND U.S. ARMY FLAG ARE NOT UNLESS SA/CSA OR SENIOR ARE PRESENT.

- WHEN THE LAST UNIT HAS PASSED THE REVIEWING STAND, THE BAND WILL

STOP PLAY MARCHING MUSIC AND PERFORM A DRUM CADENCE.

NARRATOR: PLEASE RISE FOR THE PLAYING OF **SPECIAL MUSIC** AND THE ARMY SONG.

- WHEN THE LAST ELEMENT OF TROOPS HAS PASSED THE REVIEWING STAND AND EXECUTED *READY FRONT*, THE BAND STOPS PLAYING MARCHING MUSIC WHILE CONTINUING AN EIGHT BAR DRUM CADENCE. ON THE FIRST BEAT FOLLOWING DRUM CADENCE, THE BAND BEGINS PLAYING **SPECIAL MUSIC, UNIT SONG**, THEN GOES DIRECTLY INTO (IN PLACE) THE OFFICIAL VERSION OF THE “THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG,” BEGINNING AT THE INTRODUCTION. ON THE SECOND TIME THROUGH LETTER A (OR NINTH BAR), THE DRUM MAJOR MARCHES FORWARD AND EXECUTE A LEFT TURN ONTO THE REVIEWING LINE WHILE CONTINUING TO PLAY UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF THE CHORUS.
- THE COT EXECUTES A LEFT FACE AND SALUTES THE **INCOMING CO** “SIR, THIS CONCLUDES THE CEREMONY”.
- INCOMING CO SALUTES AND RESPONDS, "TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR TROOPS."

NARRATOR: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THIS CONCLUDES THE CEREMONY. ON BEHALF OF THE **UNIT NAME**, WE THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THIS CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY. FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO SAY FAREWELL

**TO OUTGOING CO AND SPOUSE, PLEASE PROCEED TO  
SPECIFIED AREA.**